



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: Second Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the First Tuesday of each month.



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit
<http://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

frequently for our 2018
ham public service
schedule.

RARS General Meeting

Topic: Field Day by Bob Starkenburg, W4TTX

Date: June 12, 2018

Time: Meeting at 7:30PM

Informal gathering and refreshments from 7 - 7:30 p.m.

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church. 2011 Ridge Rd., Raleigh

New HAM meeting, 6:00 p.m. before member meeting

Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, New Ham Meeting Coordinator

[Click here for more information.](#)

President's Message

As I write this article I have just returned from the Dayton Hamvention in Xenia, Ohio where I was happy to see many other RARS members in attendance. At the risk of accidentally omitting any RARS members who were at Hamvention I will highlight the following RARS members who I personally visited with in Dayton. RARS member and current NC Section Manager Karl W4CHX was very active in the ARRL booth. When I visited with Karl he was helping out with the very important work at the ARRL Foundation table. RARS member John KG4AKV had a booth promoting his satellite communications work and his YouTube channel "SpaceComms1". John also participated in a very well received AMSAT demonstration at Hamvention on Saturday afternoon, talking to several stations via satellite from

[Continued on page 4](#)

RARS Officers

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The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).

Exciter

The Exciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The Exciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter is the third Friday of the preceding month. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor (editor@rars.org)

For Your Information

RARS General Meeting

Date: Second Tuesday of each month

Location: Ridge Road Baptist Church 2011
Ridge Road Raleigh, NC, 27607

Time: People begin arriving at 7 p.m. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 p.m.

RARS Monthly Dinner

All members and guests are welcome to the monthly (first Tuesday) RARS Supper, 6:30PM, at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 6129 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh. Informal and Dutch, just bring your appetite and best rag to chew. 73, Chuck, K4HF

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

146.640 and 444.525

Join us for the nightly RARS net at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

There is a net Listing on the RARS website click here. <http://www.rars.org/nets.php>

VE Testing

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing in February, May, August and November at 5:30PM, prior to RARS membership meetings at Ridge Road Baptist Church; the RARSfest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARS-Fest in November; and following RARS license classes. Please bring a photo ID, your original and a copy of your current license, your \$14 exam fee, and any valid CSCEs that prove passing elements beyond that of your current license. Visit www.rars.org for more information.

May 2018

RARS Net Report Summary

Virginia Enzor NC4VA
RARS Net Manager

Checkins: 555
Traffic Brought/Passed: 12/12
Minutes: 1107
Sessions: 30

Marconi Spark Gap Transmitter Demonstration



We have come a long way from when we used spark gap transmitters.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSf93g0heUA>

President's Message continued

Hamvention. RARS members Hank K4HM and Selene KG4RMT were both there having driven up in their motorhome and thus avoided the shuttle bus from the remote parking lot, making the rest of us quite jealous! RARS members Tadd KA2DEW and Nancy KB2TNR were there as well. Tadd's packet network will be much stronger for his trip to the Hamvention flea market. Additionally, I had the opportunity to talk with several vendors who were set up at Hamvention who also participate in RARS Fest and I was able to thank them for being part of our RARS Fest success. I shared with them the great news that our most recent RARS fest was a great success in terms of both attendance and money raised and I again thanked them for being a large part of that success. One of the students who got his Tech license as a result of our class last year was there as well. His job transferred him away from North Carolina shortly after he got licensed but he is active and enjoying the hobby from his new home in Ohio. He recognized Tadd and I as we were talking outside of the forum building. He came up to us and again thanked RARS for helping him get into the hobby.

It is a testimony to RARS that even at the largest ham fest in the country, hundreds of miles from North Carolina, RARS members are actively involved.

If you are on the fence about going to Hamvention next year, I would encourage you to attend. It would be great to have even more RARS members attend next year. My favorite thing was seeing old friends who I had not seen in many years. I saw several friends from my time in Michigan who I had not seen in more than 20 years when I lived there as a teenager. I saw friends from my time in Indiana who I had not seen in more than 15 years. I saw friends who I talk to on the air on weekly nets but had never met in person. I also got to meet and have brief conversations with several ham radio personalities such as Bob Heil, Gordon West, Bob Allison of the ARRL testing lab, Mr. Jue the founder of MFJ, Mr. Begali of the Begali Morse key company whose daughter translated our brief conversation as his English was about the same as my Italian. I even got to sit next to logging software creator N1MM at the CWOPS banquet. It was also an opportunity to make many new acquaintances as well.

As we transition from the season of Spring to Summer many fun and exciting ham radio activities begin to show up on the horizon, most notably FIELD DAY! We had originally planned to be at the Raleigh Police Club for 2018 Field Day as we were in 2017. However, due to a booking error, we were not able to secure that location. We are very grateful to RARS members Jim N4CAE and Beth KF4QMR who graciously welcomed us back to their farm for Field Day where RARS conducted Field Day for the 20 years before 2017. We also had a change in our Field Day chairmanship. Marty W4MY did a great job getting the initial organization set up and has stepped aside. Bob

President's Message continued

W4TTX is going to lead us into the home stretch. Thanks to both Marty and Bob for your service as Field Day Chairman. Full details about Field Day are included elsewhere in this edition of the Exciter. Please read the details and come out to participate. Our June meeting will provide further information so please attend that if possible. Hams of all experience levels, backgrounds, and interests will all find a place for them to have fun at RARS Field Day. Come see and/or participate in Phone, CW, Digital, Satellite, VHF/UHF as well as HF operations. We will have a Get On The Air (GOTA) station organized by Tadd KA2DEW so if you are new to it all and want to operate in a low stress learning environment we have just the place for you too.

Come out and join us for some good fellowship, food and radio. You can camp out at the location if you want or just come for an hour or two. Come by yourself or bring friends and family. Field Day can be a fun way to show kids/grandkids the fun of ham radio too. Whatever way you want to enjoy Field Day; I hope to see you there.

We also had a change in the RARS food service chair this month. We thank Bill AK4BL for many years of outstanding service as our food service chair and now welcome Richard N1FUA to the position. Richard will be assisted by Robert K4WWR. We will be officially nominating Richard for the position (per the RARS bylaws) at the June meeting and voting on the position at the July meeting, but in the meantime, Richard has graciously agreed to start performing the job duties effective immediately, to ensure that we miss no meals. Thanks to Bill, Richard and Robert for this valuable service to RARS.

As is done each quarter, the RARS VE Team headed by Joe WA4GIR and Liz KO4CK offered Amateur Radio License testing before our May meeting. I am pleased to report that we now have three new Technicians, two new Generals and two new Extras as a result of that session. Congratulations to those getting a new ticket or upgrading and thanks to each member of our RARS Volunteer Examiner team. When a person becomes a new ham by passing his or her exam at a RARS sponsored VE session he or she is offered a free membership in RARS. So, please be sure to welcome our newest members when you see them at meetings or hear them on the air.

RARS currently has more than 400 members, making us the largest ham radio club in North Carolina and one of the largest in the United States. This size allows us to do many great things. Every RARS member brings valuable experience, insight, ideas and energy to our club, so please come out to our dinners, meetings, and Field Day and make these fun events even better by being part of them.

73 Carl, W8WZ

RARS Birthdays

Charles	KI4DCR	06/03
Dan	KI4ZBW	06/03
Gwen	KF4EUT	06/05
Mark	KM4JRH	06/06
Lisa	KM4AMW	06/06
Shelby	NC4SH	06/06
Rick	N4VQT	06/07
Sam Wells		06/09
David	W4OFO	06/10
Ken	KN4GUS	06/11
Charles	NZ0I	06/11
Rich	N1DDY	06/14
Ronald Brobst Sr		06/17
Todd	K4TDT	06/19
Wade	KK4UGY	06/19
Derek Borrer		06/20
William	W4AK	06/21
Bobbie	KD4ZVW	06/22
Lanny	K1LEC	06/24
Kelly	KD4EWG	06/24
Christopher	KN4DPY	06/25
Gary	N3GO	06/25
Bob	AH2X	06/27
Jack Murray		06/29
Mike	KN4LHJ	06/30

New RARS Members

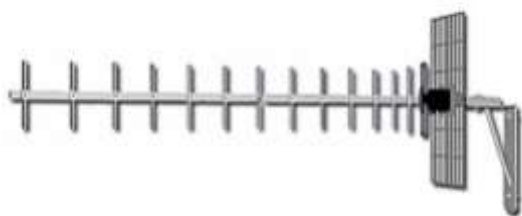
Bob Richards	W4GIA
Matt Hogstrom	KN4MIO
Skip Proctor	WB4P
Chris Busch	K4CKB
Joe Fowler	K0CYA
John Browning	KN4MJT
Pedro Luna-Orea	KN4MJR
Sergey Kranin	KN4MJV

June 16 is Kids Day

(QST, May 2018, page 89).

Most of us learned about Amateur Radio in our younger years. There's a lot of competition out there for your kids' attention. Amateur Radio can offer them knowledge about electronics, geography, physics and the world. Provide them with something more than just having big thumbs. And don't forget to take them to Field Day.

Murray, K4MHM



Future Hamfests

A full list of Hamfests can be found at the [ARRL website](#).

07/07/2018 | [33rd Annual 2018 Firecracker Hamfest](#)

Location: Salisbury, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Rowan Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.rowanars.org/firecracker-hamfest/>

07/21/2018 | [Mid-Summer Swapfest](#)

Location: Cary, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cary Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.qsl.net/n4nc/>

07/28/2018 | [WCARS Hamfest](#)

Location: Waynesville, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://wcars.org>

08/11/2018 | [20th Annual Cape Fear ARS Swapfest](#)

Location: Fayetteville, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.cfarsnc.org>

*New HAM meeting, 6:00 p.m. before the
member meeting*

Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, New Ham meeting Coordinator

*The New Hams meeting is held every month before the regular RARS meeting.
We'll try to start by 6pm. We try to address topics in a manner that will be of help
to hams in their first year of operation.*



During the May meeting we talked to several stations in NY state including a mobile and a QRP station. We were using a 40m 70' long dipole strung up between two trees at about 10' elevation.



Rig used for the May demo

The new ham meeting in June will be about drilling holes and mounting vhf/uhf mobile antennas in the roof of a new car, or making RG8X coax jumpers.

May Presentation for the 2018 NC QSO Party



Marty Young, W4MY presenting a plaque to Joanne Mars, AA3N



Wood plaque from the NC QSO party 2018

May Presentation was Communications Nostalgia
given by Tom McKee, K4ZAD



Tom McKee, K4ZAD

May Door Prize winners



Left to right, Kenneth Burton (N3LTX), David Thomas (K4SAN),
Bob Richards, Virginia Enzor (NC4VA) & Gregory Schweizer (WD4GES)

Windows 10 Update breaks WSJT operation

I have been using WSJT and FT8 for a while now. The computer is a 64 bit windows 10 system. Microsoft did an update on May 21st. It took a long time to run and when it was done I could no longer operate FT8. When I started WSJT this error was shown "Error in Sound Input".

The program was not receiving any audio from the radio. I did a lot of searching on the internet and finally found the solution. It was hard to find the solution because I was searching for audio input problem and not a microphone input problem. When windows 10 was new I turned off a lot of things to improve my privacy. One of them was the Microphone input. The computer does not have a microphone but I turned it off anyhow.

This search found the solution "windows 10 microphone access permissions".

To fix it, go to Settings, Privacy, Microphone and enable the microphone access.

WSJT now works okay like it did before the update.

73 Tom N4TL

Future RARS Meeting Topics

Titles, topics, and speakers subject to change.

7/10/2018	Civil Air Patrol	Don Williams, AB4IO
8/14/2018	Linear Amplifiers	Bob Naumann W5OV Sales Manager for DX Engineering
9/11/2018	Satellite Communications	John Brier KG4AKV
10/9/2018	RARS Officers nominations RARS Auction	Election committee & TBD
11/13/2018	RARS Officers election and Show and Tell. Bring something of interest in Ham Radio that you would like to show off. Be prepared to talk about it. The time will be limited so everyone can have time to show their item.	Election committee & members
12/11/2018	RARS pot luck Holiday party. Sign up at the RARS website. RARS Officers induction.	Election committee

Time to Renew!

Please help us continue to provide quality programs, activities, and events for our club members. One of the ways we do this is through the RARS annual dues. The membership year is July 1- June 30, so it's time to renew!

Dues

Regular \$18

Reduced (under 12 or over 60) \$12

Associate (not licensed) \$9

Each additional family member \$5

*You have the option to renew for multiple years!

There are a number of ways to renew your dues.

- 1) Pay at a RARS meeting.
- 2) Mail your dues to the RARS Treasurer at the following address:

RARS
c/o Greg Seamster
1405 Leanne Court
Raleigh, NC 27606

- 3) Pay online at <http://www.rars.org/joinrars.php>. Online payments are made via PayPal to Raleigh_ARS@earthlink.net.

Note: A PayPal account is not required to make a credit card payment.

If there are no data changes to your membership (address, call, license class, etc.), you do not need to fill out a renewal form. The membership form can be downloaded in a PDF format at <http://www.rars.org/joinrars.php>.

Note: You can view your membership status and update data at <http://www.rars.org/only.php>.
Thanks! We could not do it without you.

Thanks,

Greg Seamster KE4PAX

Spotlight on RARS Net Friends

Virginia Enzor NC4VA, RARS Net Manager



I find hams are some of the most fascinating folks that you will meet! This column will now showcase those who check into our RARS nets. Hopefully, you might find a conversation starter here or something you didn't know about the person behind the voice on the radio. Here's a toast to friendship!

Remember, the net meets nightly at 8:00 PM on the 146.64 repeater. Please check in; we would love to hear how your day is going.

Spotlight on Dennis Mason WZ0Q

1. Name, Callsign & License class

Dennis Mason WZ0Q, Extra class, formerly AJ4HK, K4DAM, and KD4GAN

2. Year originally licensed

Novice test June 1991, Tech July 1991, General April, 2007, and Extra, 2008

3. How did you get into ham radio?

I had an uncle from Norway who was a Ham, and when he came to the U.S., I got interested when I saw his equipment. I was 22 years old then, but I did not get licensed until 1991.

4. What aspects of the hobby currently interest you?

I jumped into 6 meters and got my VUCC for 6 meters in 2004. Also hf and vhf/uhf.

5. Positions that you hold in RARS or other organizations

Was a net control for about a year on the .64 repeater; was a PCRN NCS on Wednesday night for a couple of years. Currently am an ARRL & W5YI Volunteer Examiner; member of QCWA, locally and nationally.

6. Any special awards? (DXCC, WAS, WAC, IOTA, etc.)

VUCC, WAS, OMISS, SCARS 6mtr club, SMIRK, worked all O's, CERT, Possum trot net, etc.

7. Any special project you are currently working on?

Trying to work for DXCC.

Continued from the previous page

8. Interests outside of radio?

Hand guns and target shooting. Diehard Green Bay Packer fan.

9. Words of advice for new hams?

Get your ticket and enjoy the hobby.



Best confined mess. Dennis Mason, [redacted], of Raleigh, North Carolina, brought tiers to the judges' eyes with this vertically oriented entry. Where exactly do the feet go, Dennis?

This photo of Dennis' shack appeared in the November 2001 edition of QST magazine!

Spotlight on Tara Goodwin W4TSW

1. Name, Callsign & License class
Tara Goodwin W4TSW, General

2. Year originally licensed
2016

3. How did you get into ham radio?

You know it's a really funny story. Robert, K4WWR, kept telling me about this bucket list item of acquiring an amateur radio license and, not long after we started dating, he began studying in earnest to achieve this. It all started when I was helping him study because I would start to ask questions. Finally, on a long car trip, he began to describe what 'Ham' radio was. It was not an immediate "I've got to do this" for me though because all I could think was "But I have a cell phone why do I need a radio?"

So for months he would talk about how the world still used ham radio, he would show me videos of contests and worldwide contacts, he would build a radio from scratch and show me different parts, then he had me listen to the repeaters. But, even then, it wasn't enough that I committed 100% to acquiring my own license.

It wasn't until I met the members of the GGARS (Greater Gastonia Amateur Radio Society) and realized that this hobby was another branch of 'geek' which I was already fluent in. I stopped looking at it as just a 'radio hobby' and more of a way to socialize with like-minded adults, a way to give back to my community, and a way to be a part of something bigger than myself.

4. What aspects of the hobby currently interest you?

I'm really interested in the behind the scenes of amateur radio. I honestly enjoy being a board member, volunteering as RARSfest Chair, and now expanding into Public Relations for Field Day. I love running the many social media pages and using them to reach other hams in the community. I am really big on saying that as I walk from one stage of life to the next that I hope to have left behind something that made the world a better place. So working behind the scenes, and sometimes with the education team, I have the ability to assist in the movement, changes, and outreach of amateur radio.

As for radio itself I absolutely love the net check-ins on the repeaters. It's great to hear about everyone's day. I have started referring to them as 'On-The-Air Facebook'.

I am also interested in the Satellite Communications and using ham bands for flying drones, though getting into either one of those are more of a bucket list for down the road.

5. Positions that you hold in RARS or other organizations:

Currently in RARS I'm the 2018-2020 Secretary, 2018-2020 RARSfest Chair, 2018 Public Relations for Field Day, and Unofficial Social Media Wizard..err I mean Admin. I also assist the Education team and I feel a little bit like an ambassador for RARS when I'm out and about in the ham community.

As for 'other' organizations I am a member of several Charity Organizations that are made up of those of us who dress up as Princesses and Superhero's and we go around to places like the Children's homes, Ronald McDonald houses, hospitals, and also participate in events like Military Families, Jaycees, Cancer Walks, and other such associations that are geared toward helping children. I have been blessed to have seen a sick child laugh hysterically playing Hide N Go Seek with a group of Princesses while holding a her heart rate monitor, I've given an underprivileged child a piggy back ride while her and Supergirl 'flew' through the air, and I've climbed into a military jeep with a group of children, whose parents are away fighting a war they do not understand, while they screamed "We are conquering the world" and every day I feel blessed that I was been able to experience that.

6. Any special awards? (DXCC, WAS, WAC, IOTA, etc)

I am a member of the Royal Order of the Wouff Houg...and that's all I have to say about that. I have also recently received my first QSL card and a certificate from my first 6m net check-in.

7. Any special project you are currently working on?

Right now I am working on how to work HF from a townhouse with high restrictions. It's taking a lot of hit or miss with dipoles, tons of research online, and, I expect, even more to come. But considering less then eighteen months ago I didn't have an amateur license I feel like I'm moving at a pretty steady pace. J

Continued from the previous page

8. Interests outside of radio?

My interest outside of radio are obsessing over TV shows and movies, I have many favorites and they are mostly fantasy, science fiction, and/or cartoons. Sewing costumes for Cos-play and Charity events, creating DIY crafts, and creating Memes, GIFS, and other fun content for the many Facebook pages I run. And I can always be found attending a Hurricanes game-Let's Go Canes!!!

9. Words of advice for new hams?

GET ON THE AIR!!!! Yes it's intimidating but once you do it you will find it's not so bad but the longer you wait the harder it is. If you're nervous find a 'Ham Buddy'-someone who will talk to you One-on-One, on simplex or through a repeater, and help you get comfortable with using your radio and also practicing formal call sign usage. Then use the nets to practice.

Also **Join A Club**. Obviously RARS is a great one but there are plenty of good clubs in the area, most can be found on our website. Shop around, visit their dinners and meetings, and pick one that you not only feel comfortable in but also has the same radio agendas that interest you. This way you have a support system and quick go-to help when needed.



Earn Some Wallpaper for Your Shack!

Virginia Enzor NC4VA

RARS Net Manager

It's revival time - revival of the RARS "Sixty-Four on Six-Four Award"! The last award was issued in 2004; will you be the one to earn the next coveted award?

To receive this award, you must make 64 or more different station contacts on the 146.64 repeater.

That means no duplicate stations. You can receive two endorsements on the award; one for each additional 64 contacts made and also one for contacting 64 or more RARS members on the .64 repeater.

To apply for the award, you should present your completed logsheet to the Net Manager, Virginia Enzor NC4VA (nc4va@nc.rr.com), with the following information:

Date of Contact

Time of Contact

Callsign

First Name

RARS membership status (if known)

There is no time limit within which the contacts must be made.

All contacts made as a Net Control Operator will count too!

You do not have to be a member of RARS to receive this award.

Upon completion, you will receive a handsome 8.5" X 11" certificate, suitable for framing and displaying proudly in your ham shack.

An application/logsheet and reiteration of the rules can be found at www.rars.org. In lieu of the application/logsheet, you may use a spreadsheet with the requested information if you desire.

So, keep your logsheet and pencil handy; record your contacts starting today! You'll work 64 stations in no time at all. One the easiest ways to make contacts is to announce on the evening RARS nets that you are working on the award and would like to make contacts after the net. You will create a fun pile-up!

Should you have questions, please contact Virginia Enzor NC4VA.

Hope to issue quite a few of these awards in 2018!



Miscellaneous Information

Aluminum for Antennas

Do you need aluminum for an antenna you are going to build? Here is another source.
<https://stockcarsteel.com/>

Hard To Find Power Cords

Need a hard to find power cord? Check this place out. They have many other hard to find parts. <http://www.kenselectronics.com/>

Warranty Coverage

FTC Staff Warns Companies that It Is Illegal to Condition Warranty Coverage on the Use of Specified Parts or Services. The Federal Trade Commission staff has sent warning letters to six major companies that market and sell automobiles, cellular devices, and video gaming systems in the United States. The letters warn that FTC staff has concerns about the companies' statements that consumers must use specified parts or service providers to keep their warranties intact. Unless warrantors provide the parts or services for free or receive a waiver from the FTC, such statements generally are prohibited by the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, a law that governs consumer product warranties. Similarly, such statements may be deceptive under the FTC Act.

Each company used different language, but here are examples of questionable provisions:

- The use of [company name] parts is required to keep your . . . manufacturer's warranties and any extended warranties intact.
- This warranty shall not apply if this product . . . is used with products not sold or licensed by [company name].

This warranty does not apply if this product . . . has had the warranty seal on the [product] altered, defaced, or removed.

<https://www.ftc.gov/news-events/press-releases/2018/04/ftc-staff-warns-companies-it-illegal-condition-warranty-coverage>

MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND

June 2-3, 2018

0000Z June 2, to 2359Z June 3, 2018



In 2018 there will be 97 ships participating in Museum Ships Weekend. Simply work as many as you can during the weekend and collect their beautiful QSL cards as well as a certificate if you work 15 or more of them.

Some ships are using their original equipment and antennas. Others are using modern amateur gear onboard the ship. Ships will be using CW, AM, SSB and digital. Operating on any frequency is allowed but most will try to stay in the General Class sub-bands.

Full information can be found at :

<http://www.nj2bb.org/museum/>

73 Carl, W8WZ



Minutes

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

Board Members Meeting

Date | time 04/17/18 @ 7:01 pm | *Meeting called to order by* Carl Davis W8WZ

In Attendance

12 Members, 0 Visitors

Carl Davis W8WZ

Tara Goodwin W4TSW

Alan Pitegoff AB4OZ

Chuck Littlewood K4HF

Hank Montgomery K4HM

Virginia Enzor NC4VA

Joanne Mars AA3N

Ian Hewitt N0IAN

Greg Seamster KE4PAX

Murray Merner K4MHM

Tom Lewis N4TL

John Stone (K3RHJ)

Approval of Minutes

Quorum present: March Board Meeting Minutes Approved

President Report-Carl W8WZ

Present; no report to give

Vice President Report-Tom N4TL

Tom added Linear Amplifiers to the August presentation schedule and this will be done via either Skype or Zoom and presented by a Bob (W5OV) from DX Engineering. Tom will not be available that night of that meeting but is planning to team up with Tara (W4TSW) on how to use the church A/V equipment so that there will be someone on site with the knowledge to assist the guests.

Treasurer's Report-Greg KE4PAX

Greg reported that there are now 397 members, but this is not counting the few that signed up at the 4.10.18 membership meeting. He stated that profit from RARSfest is almost \$5500, along with the highest amount of income since 2000.

Secretary's Report-Tara W4TSW

Present; Nothing to Report

Directors Reports

Public Service Director-John K3RHJ: Present; states he is having issues getting the volunteers he needs for the events. He's going to send out an email blast to see if he can drum up some more assistance.

Alan (AB4OZ) offered the APRS Systems to use for Public Service but one of them is currently missing and Greg (KE4PAX) will be sending out an email to see if it can be located.

Education Director-Carl W8WZ: Carl presented an analysis of the last class. The last technician class had 18 students registered, 16 attended, 8 tested, 6 passed w/ 2 passing general. Percentage of registrants becoming hams: 44.4%; percent of attendees becoming hams: 50% Standard numbers for the RARS classes.

Further discussion was made of possible reasoning behind the turnout and a suggestion for the board to watch the online videos was made. The next Technician class will be held early fall under the new ARRL curriculum.

Exciter Chair-Tom N4TL: The Exciter is doing well. Plenty of articles are being sent in by members and things are running smoothly.

FM Repeater Chair-Karl W4CHX: Not Present, no report given:

Carl (W8WZ) & Alan (AB4OZ) brought up the continuing conversation that on windy, cold, or off weather days the 640 repeater is noisy and hard to connect to. There is still a need to create a repeater committee to take a report of the repeaters, and additional equipment, and look into insurance assisting in the diagnosis and repair of the 640 repeater.

Alan also noted that the coaxial cable on the 130 repeater had been changed and that there was some testing on possible linking being performed earlier in the week. Greg (KE4PAX) mentioned he has not seen the invoice for the coaxial that was installed.

RARSFEST Chair-Tara W4TSW: Tara announced that RARSfest, as always, was a success with sales up 4% and attendance the highest it's been since 2000. The date for the 2019 RARSfest, April 20th, is already booked with the fairgrounds and, at this time, all lead positions for next year are filled.

Webmaster-Hank K4HM: Deltaforce, the ISP that hosts the 2 websites, is moving all of their customers to new servers. The new platform will have updated operating system, script processing software, web site software, and more. There have had software upgrades before, and twice in the last few years have been moved to newer servers and each time there have been some minor problems but nothing drastic.

The most significant issue with this move is that ALL Deltaforce servers will now be secure (SSL) servers which means that "secure" ONLY relates to the transport or network connection. It has no bearing on the content of a site and basically means encrypted - so you should have a high assurance that you have a secure connection to the correct site and are not being intercepted or hijacked by a different site or hacker.

Hank is has been working on checking and changing code for the switch over and expects that Nearly half of the 400+ files that make up our web pages will need some minor tweaks for us to run as a secure site but hopes to have all of the changes made by the end of this month. Also look to see some of the very old out-of-date pages to be removed instead of changed

Tom (N4TL) had a few questions for Hank regarding if the server was on a battery back-up system and if Deltaforce backed up our files. Hank stated that he believes there is a battery back-up, in case of power failure, and that he keeps a complete back up of all our data in his own files.

John(K3RJH) asked if it would affect the List Server and Hank's reply was that while it was on the same server it was not actually maintained by RARS and should not be affected by the move.

Net Manager-Virginia NC4VA: Virginia stated the Exciter 'Spotlight On Net Controls' would come to an

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end next month with Joe Squashic (W4TTO) but that they will then move to spotlighting net participants.

She presented a 'First Contact Award' certificate to the board for approval that she would give to the net control operators to send out a net participant that states it's their first amateur radio contact. She needed the board to approve the envelopes and stamps for sending the certificates. Carl (W8WZ) stated he would donate the envelopes and stamps for the project.

Chuck (K4HF) mentioned the reactivation of the "64 on .64 Award" to encourage new hams to get on the air. Virginia will reach out to Jeff Whittich (AC4ZO) regarding the award.

ARRL Liaison-Chuck K4HF: Chuck mentioned there was a new ARRL for CEO that will be around for the next two years. He also stated there is still a lot of conversation regarding the new privileges for the technician license and it sounds like it's going in a positive direction.

NC QSO Party Chair-Marty W4MY: Not Present; no report

Tara (W4TSW) mentioned that you could access the 2018 results though the website at: <http://ncqsoparty.org/results/>

Director-at-large-Joanne AA3N: Present; no report to give

Director-at-large-Alan Pitegoff AB4OZ: Present, no report to give

Youth Director-Murray K4MHM: Present; no report to give

Food Service Chair-Bill AK4BL: Not Present; no report sent/given

Immediate Past President-Dennis NC4DK: Not present, no report given

Public Information Officer-Charles KM4AMT: Not present, no report given.

ARRL NC Section Manager-Karl W4CHX: Not present, no report given

W4DW/W4RNC TRUSTEE-Jeff, AC4ZO: Not present, no report given

Field Day Chair-Marty W4MY: Not Present, no report given

Director-at-large-Marty W4MY: Not present, no report given

Old Business

None

New Business

RARSfest Task-Force: Carl (W8WZ) brought to the table a plan for putting together a task-force for RARSfest, ran by Ian (N0IAN) and consisting of some of the RARSfest committee but also other members of RARS. This committee would not look at RARSfest from year-to-year but would be tasked to work on a plausible forecast for the next 3, 5, 8, and 10 years. They would attend other state Hamfest, poll our vendors, dealers, and other club participants, guests, forum speakers, demonstrators, and compile the information and create a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, & Threats).

This task-force would then report to the RARSfest committee their finding and suggestions which the RARSfest Chair would bring to the board.

Membership Growth: Carl (W8WZ) also mentioned that he is going to be asking around on suggestions how to retain current members and recruit new members. There will be no group created but he will do this just as the current president of RARS.

Budget: Budget: Greg (KE4PAX) gave an in-depth presentation of the draft 2018-2019 budget. This was discussed by the board and will be reviewed again and approved by the board at the May board meeting. The budget will be presented to the membership for approval at the June membership meeting.

Additional Business/Comments/Announcements

None

Next Meeting

05/15/2018, 2011 Ridge Road at 7pm

Meeting was adjourned at 8:27pm

Meeting Minutes taken and Submitted by Tara Goodwin W4TSW

Minutes

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

Members Meeting

Date | time 05/08/18 @ 7:30pm | *Meeting called to order by* Carl Davis, W8WZ

In Attendance

The monthly membership meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society met at the Ridge Road Baptist Church in Raleigh. The meeting was called to order by President Carl, W8WZ, at 7:30 pm.

The pledge of Allegiance was recited

54 members and 2 visitors.

Visitors were Brandy McIntosh and Bob Richards

Approval of Minutes

A quorum being present, a motion to accept the minutes of the April 10, 2018 meeting, as published in the Exciter, was made, seconded, and approved.

Continuing Announcements

The RARS dinner takes place monthly on the first Tuesday (next: June 5th) at 6:30p.m. at Golden Corral; 6129 Glenwood Ave, Raleigh.

The next board meeting, which is open to all our members, will be Tuesday May 15th at 7pm in the Ridge Road Church conference room. Afterwards many members retire to a nearby restaurant for a quick bite.

Tonight's after-meeting gathering, for any who are interested, will be at the Rudinos located at 3101 Edwards Mill Rd Raleigh 27612

A new ham/Elmer's meeting with new hams, and anyone interested, takes place before each membership meeting at 6pm at the Ridge Road church.

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This month's group of hams, led by Tad (KA2DEW) spent the class time outside using a Go Kit to make HF contacts in Maryland, Virginia Beach, Syracuse, and other places. The class participants were able to get on the air and make contacts.

Vice President Report/Exciter Chair-Tom N4TL

He thanked everyone for their article submittals for the May Exciter.

Tom announced that the June presentation will be Field Day Presentation by Bob (W4TTX) and July would be a presentation about the Civil Air Patrol by Pilot Don Williams (AB4IO)

Treasurer's Report-Greg KE4PAX

Greg was not present, but he sent a report to be read by Carl, (W8WZ) and it stated that our membership currently is at 413 members. He updated the club on the current numbers and the Treasurers Report was approved. For those interested in official treasurer reports can contact Greg (KE4PAX)

Secretary's Report-Tara W4TSW

No Report; Quorum present

Board and Committee Reports

Net Manager-Virginia NC4VA: Virginia didn't have a report, but she wanted to promote a revived RARS award, the 64 on Six-Four award. The premise is to make 64 different contacts on the Six-Four repeater, nets do not count, and when completed there is a frameable certificate. There are also endorsements that go from 64 to 256 contacts. There is also an endorsement if you contact 64 award members. She suggested announcing during your rag chew that you will stay on after net and then make contacts that way. She states the application, and more information, will be available online at www.rars.org at a later date.

NC QSO Party Chair-Marty W4MY: Marty announced that it was a successful QSO Party and that the logs had been confirmed and awards were being presented.

He asked Joanne (AA3N) to come to the front where he presented her with a plaque for appreciation of service for her 4 years of serving as a committee member of NCQSO Party from 2014-2018

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Director At Large-Joanne AA3N: Joanne did not have a report, but she gave a small thank-you speech, when accepting her award, regarding the enjoyment she found working on the NCQSO Party committee.

Board and Committee with No Reports

Public Service-John K3RHJ
FM Repeater Chair-Karl W4CHX
Food Service-Bill AK4BL
ARRL Liaison-Chuck K4HF
Youth Director-Murray K4MHM
Past President-Dennis NC4DK
ARRL Section Manager-Karl W4CHX
Webmaster-Hank K4HM
W4DW/W4RNC Trustee
Director at Large-Alan AB4OZ
Field Day Chair-Marty W4MY:
Education Director-Carl W8WZ:
RARSFEST Chair-Tara W4TSW:

Old Business

No Old Business

New Business

Carl (W8WZ) announced that there were some leadership changes that have recently taken place and prefaced saying he would like to thank those that have served faithfully and thank those that were stepping up to serve.

Marty (W4MY) has stepped down as Field Day Chair and Bob (W4TTX) has agreed to chair the event this year.

Bill Mars (AK4BL) is stepping down as Food Service Chair and Richard (N1FUA) has agreed to take over for the remainder of the term.

Carl (W8WZ) also announced there was a Field Day change. Due to a double booking at the Police Club the Field Day event is moving back to The Carrol Farm in Apex, where we have had 20 previous great field days.

Door Prizes

Door Prizes were won by Virginia Enzor (NC4VA), David Thomas (K4SAN), Gregory Schweizer (WD4GES),

Minutes continued from the previous page

Kenneth Burton (N3LTX) & Bob Richards

Congratulations to all our May Winners!!!

Additional Business/Comments/Announcements

There was a VE testing session, prior to tonight's meeting, and there were 3 Technicians, 2 General, and Extra that passed.

Two members gave quick tech tips.

Carl (W8WZ) commented that Tadd (KA2DEW) would be running the GOTA station at Field Day for those who wanted to stop by and Get On The Air.

Tonight's presentation Communications Nostalgia by Tom McKee (K4ZAD)

Next Meeting

06/12/2018, 2011 Ridge Road at 7pm

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm

Meeting Minutes taken and Submitted by Tara Goodwin W4TSW



QSL Routes

Looking for where to send your card requests? Thanks to the Daily DX here is a website that has a list of QSL Routes that may be helpful.

<http://www.dailydx.com/qsl-routes/>

www.rars.org

Current Public Service Opportunities

To volunteer for a Public Service event please complete the form at the top of this page.

WELCOME TO THE 2018 HAM PUBLIC SERVICE EVENT SIGNUP PAGE. Choose the event(s) for which you would like to volunteer and complete the sign-up form at the top of the page... note... one form for EACH event that you are volunteering. It's also very helpful to indicate what type of assignment you're interested in.

THE 2018 LIST OF PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS WILL BE POSTED AS CONFIRMED - CHECK BACK FREQUENTLY FOR UPDATED INFORMATION

Events you can sign up for now:

www.rars.org/public-service.php

The most versatile pieces of equipment for working as a ham volunteer during public service events are as follows:

PRIMARY EQUIPMENT

- * Dual band (144/440) 25 watt (min) mobile transceiver
- * A 1/2-5/8 wave well grounded dual band mobile antenna

EXTRAS THAT ARE HELPFUL

- * Dual Band (144/440) hand held transceiver
- * Extra set of charged batteries
- * Ear phones & speaker mic or boom mic/headphone set
- * Higher gain antenna than the supplied rubber duck. For example Comet BN-24 or SMA-24 or Diamond RHF40 or SRH77CA. There are also many other hi-gain HT antennas available.

2018 Firecracker 100K and 50K Ride

July 4, 2018 - Wednesday - Holly Springs, NC

This is a 32 and 62 mile bike event that requires SAGS, as well as Hams assigned to Rest Stops. This event benefits the Greater Carolinas' Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society and typically has 800+ riders.

- * Location: Carolina Brewing Company, 140 Thomas Mill Rd., Holly Springs, NC 27544
- * Ham Coordinator: John Stone (K3RHJ)
- * Website: The 26th Annual July 4th Firecracker Ride

TO VOLUNTEER, FILL OUT THE FORM AT www.rars.org/public-service.php

Continued from the previous page

2018 Bike MS: Historic New Bern Ride September 8-9, 2018 - Saturday and Sunday - New Bern, NC

The event features 30, 50, 75 and 100 mile rides each day, requiring SAGS, staff Shadows and Rest Stop Hams. The event benefits the National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society and typically draws about 2000 riders.

* Location: Union Point Park, 210 E Front St, New Bern, NC 28560

* Ham Coordinator: Brian Young (KA9QJT) for Triangle-area Hams, collaborating w/Bruce (N8UTY) of New Bern

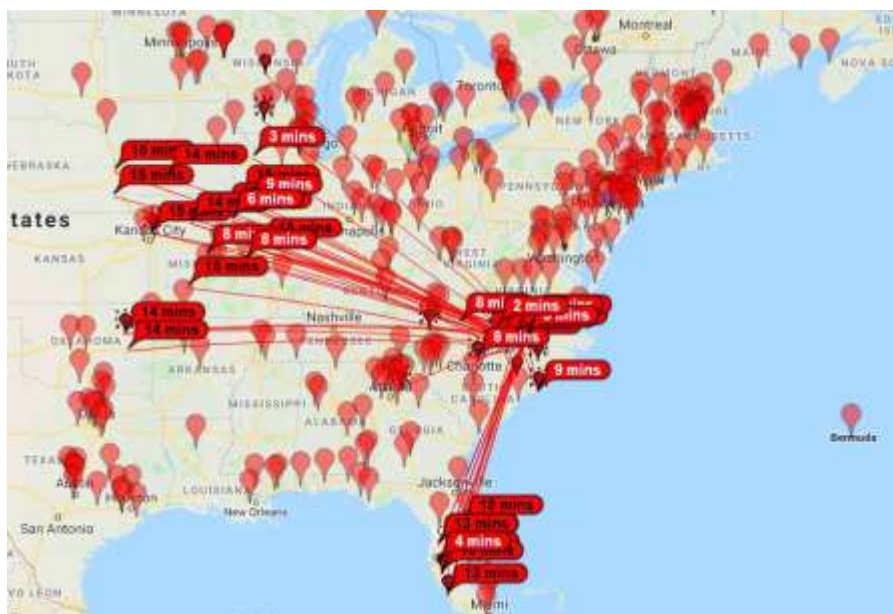
* Website: [Bike MS New Bern](#)

* Facebook (Optional): [Bike MS Ham Radio Support group](#)

* Additional Info: You are not required to register as a volunteer on the Bike MS website. Do consider making hotel arrangements now. Availability is always limited. When signing up on this website, please also include your t-shirt size.

* **TO VOLUNTEER, FILL OUT THE FORM AT** www.rars.org/public-service.php

<https://pskreporter.info/pskmap.html>



Six meters, June 1, 2018 at 10:30 AM

RARS Classifieds

Copied from www.rars.org/classifieds.php

The items below were listed within the last 30 days on the RARS website.

FS: ICOM IC-7300 Only 6 months old and still under warranty!

Posted May 24th, 2018 by: N1GMV

Contact: n1gmv@hotmail.com

I have for sale a near brand new 7300 that I purchased new from HRO last November so it is still under warranty, looks and work perfectly. I would like to sell local so I don't have to ship or deal with Ebay fees.

I will be listing it online for \$850 but if any club member would like to purchase, I will let it go for \$775 Cash. This radio does not have a scratch on it and screen as a protector on it.

I am selling it is because I recently purchased the IC7610.

Call if interested 919-426-6144 or email me N1GMV@HOTMAIL.COM.

73 John

Radios, Antennas and Radio

Posted May 14th, 2018 by: W4ZWA

Contact: zackalexander@w4zwa.com

VHF Maxtrac, will program if needed, 1 line on display out: \$30.00

Yaesu FTM-7250DR: Sold

Tram 1410 Discone Antenna: \$20.00

Copper UHF Slim Design J-Pole: \$20.00

Copper VHF J-Pole: \$20.00

Copper 220MHz J-Pole: \$20.00

MyAntenna's EFLW-1K Antenna w/ Mast Mount: \$40.00

Diamond X30A Dual Band Antenna: \$45.00

Tram 1180 Dual Band NMO Antenna: \$10.00

RigExpert AA-35 Antenna Analyzer (bought 2 weeks ago): \$230.00

Email: w4zwa@yahoo.com or zackalexander@w4zwa.com